Wireless Tech RERC

Mainstream Tech News
June 2023

Resources

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University of **Pittsburgh** | School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Wireless RERC Updates

Advanced Rehabilitation Research and Training (ARRT) Grant Awarded

Dan Ding, PhD and Mark Schmeler, PhD, OTR/L, ATP have been awarded the Advanced Rehabilitation Research and Training (ARRT) grant from the National Institute of Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). This grant, titled Career Advancement in Assistive Technology Practice, Research & Policy (CAT-PReP), is a five-year post-doctoral training program aimed at enhancing the research skills of clinicians to advance evidence-based practice and inform equitable policies related to access to assistive technology (AT) devices and services.

As AT continues to play an increasingly crucial role in supporting the home and community living of individuals with disabilities, the program is particularly timely. It seeks to address the wide range of AT applications from traditional seating and mobility solutions to emerging smart homes and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies. The program is currently accepting applications. For more detailed information about the program, please visit **our website**.

Did You Know June Is National Healthy Homes Month?

The Wireless RERC celebrated National Healthy Homes month by joining forces with the Healthy Home Lab for the Healthy Homes Resource Fair at McKnight Playground. We would like to thank the Women for a Healthy Environment for inviting us to connect with the community and share information on fostering healthy and smart environments for all! For more on smart home tech resources, check out the **Resources section on our website**!

Join the Wireless RERC at the RESNA 2023 Conference

The Wireless RERC will be exhibiting at the upcoming RESNA conference taking place from July 24—26 at the New Orleans Marriott.

Firdaus Indradhirmaya (Student Researcher) will be presenting his paper "Mobile Device Assessment Tool (MoDAT) to Capture Functional Capacity of Persons with Physical and Cognitive Disabilities" on Wednesday, July 26, at 8:30 AM.

If you're attending the conference, check out the presentation and stop by our booth!

Tech Topics in the News Turns One

The Wireless RERC launched our monthly newsletter in June 2022! We would like to thank everyone who has subscribed, sent us information to include, and shared our newsletter! Happy anniversary to *Tech Topics in the News* — we can't wait to continue to share center updates and tech news with you! Check out past editions in **our newsletter archive**.

Most Downloaded Review Article Award

Brad Dicianno, MD (RERC Co-Director) received the inaugural Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Most Downloaded Review Article Award for his paper below.

Nussbaum R, Kelly C, Quinby E, Mac A, Parmanto B, Dicianno BE. Systematic Review of Mobile Health Applications in Rehabilitation. Arch Phys Med Rehabil. 2019 Jan;100(1):115-127. doi: 10.1016/j.apmr.2018.07.439. Epub 2018 Aug 29. PMID: 30171827.

Rehabilitation & Community Provider Association (RCPA) Conference Proposal Accepted

We are excited to share that the workshop proposal titled "Revealing the Potential of Smart Home Technologies for People with Disabilities through Research and Resources" by Lindsey Morris, OTD, OTR/L, Ben Laudermilch, CEO of Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation, and Dan Ding, PhD from the Smart Home Service Delivery team has been accepted for the upcoming RCPA on Oct 10-13.

Tech News

Want an Easier Way to Remember Things on Your iPhone? Here's How!

Apple's new shortcut Remember This, available through the iOS/iPadOS Shortcuts app, provides a convenient solution for individuals facing memory challenges. Remember This offers a straightforward method to document completed tasks or upcoming ones. Users receive a prompt to record text and optionally attach photos, for enhanced detail. The shortcut seamlessly saves all entries in the Notes app, for easy reference and verification of completed items. To learn more, check out this helpful **Remember This shortcut article**.

Mobile Apps Accessibility Guidelines (2023)

This guide unpacks everything you need to know about Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.x) for mobile apps in four sections. These guidelines provide detailed instructions for website and app owners to make their platforms accessible to users with varying disabilities, ensuring no user is discriminated against. **Learn more about app accessibility guidelines**.

Smart Homes for Everyone's Home

The Verge had a special Smart Home Week event where they answered questions like what exactly a smart home is, which smart home security privacy issues are fact or fiction, and how to pick a smart home platform (ecosystem).

They also featured articles on each of the five major ecosystems — Amazon Alexa, Apple Home, Google Home, Samsung SmartThings, and Home Assistant — written by people who actually use them and can tell you how well each system worked for them. Check out the **Smart Home Week page**!

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